



Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Special Observance

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ODEI NUGGET

Communicating Diversity

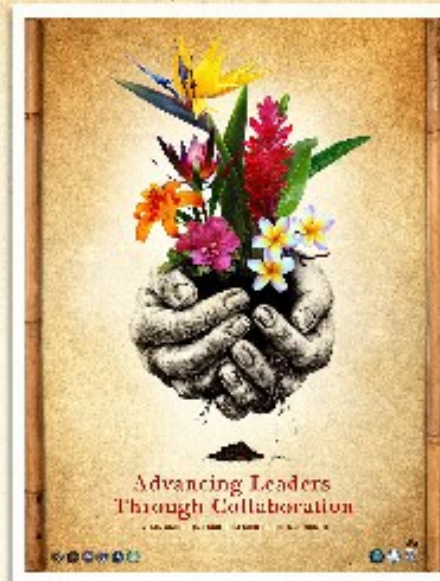
- To attract a qualified and diverse workforce, agencies should communicate their commitment to employing people with disabilities and the existence of an inclusive and diverse work environment.
- Internal communication strategies can foster awareness, acceptance and support throughout an agency, making outreach, recruitment and external communication initiatives more effective.

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion conducted a special observance in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month at the Florence Readiness Center in Florence, SC, May 18, 2022. Mr. Zabihullah Latify of the SC National Guard Youth Challenge Program served as the guest speaker for this event. He detailed his experience growing up in Afghanistan and serving as an interpreter for the US Army and Marines. The celebration also included dance performances by MSG Faipa Cheek of the SCNG, her daughter, Rosalina, and SFC Telesia Utopo, SFC Tuvalu Gallegos, SSG Ester Tukumoeatu, and SSG Lagi Custodio of Fort Jackson, SC. Filipino food samples was served, including shrimp patties, chicken adobo, pancit. Thanks to our excellent volunteers, Mr. Kevin Haynes and SSG Christine Manapat for their assistance! (U.S. Army National Guard photos by Pfc. Ana -Grace Catoe, South Carolina National Guard)

CULTURAL
AWARENESS

OBSERVANCE

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month



FACTS

The rich heritage of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders spans the world and the depths of America's history.

Generation after generation, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have established a proud legacy that reflects the spirit of our Nation—a country that values the contributions of everyone—who call America home.

Asian American and Pacific Islanders communities consist of approximately 50 ethnic groups speaking over 100 languages, with connections to Chinese, Indian, Japanese, Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean, Hawaiian, and other Asian and Pacific Islander ancestries.

During Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the Department of Defense (DoD) celebrates the accomplishments of Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) to both the Nation and the DoD mission.

In 1978, a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Week.

May was chosen to commemorate two milestones in Asian/Pacific American history which occurred in the month: the first known Japanese immigrant's arrival to the U.S. on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869 — which was built by over 20,000 Chinese workers.

In 1992, Congress expanded the observance to a month.

The estimated number of Asian alone-or-in-combination residents in the United States in 2019 was 22.9 million. Additionally, the estimated number of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone-or-in-combination residents of the United States was 1.6 million.

As we celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we pay tribute to all the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have strived and fought for a brighter future for the next generation of leaders.



DEOMI

DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



NEWS RELEASE

DEOMI RELEASES 2022 ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE

April 29, 2022

PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla. — In observance of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month (AAPIHM), the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announces the availability of original artwork available for download from DEOMI's public website, www.defenseculture.mil.

The American story as we know it would be impossible without the strength, contributions, and legacies of people with ancestral roots in Asia and the islands of the Pacific who have helped build and unite this country in each successive generation.

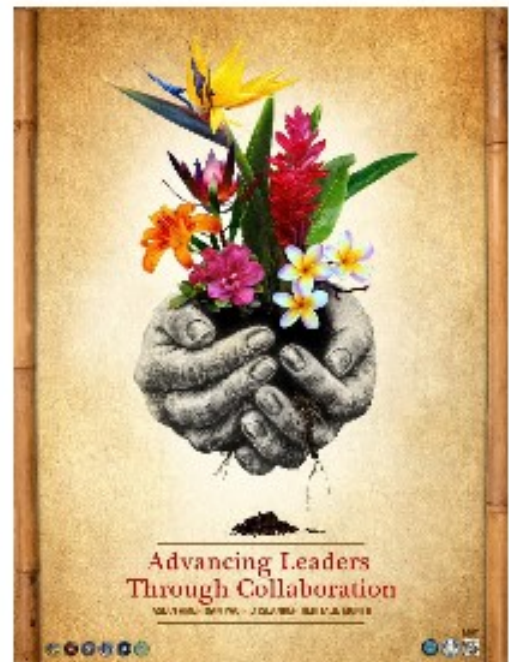
In 1992, May was designated AAPIHM. The month of May was selected in recognition of the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in the United States on May 7, 1843, and the significant contributions of Chinese pioneers to the completion of North America's transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. This year's theme for AAPIHM is: Advancing Leaders Through Collaboration.

Collaboration involves two or more individuals, groups or organizations actively working together to accomplish a task or achieve a goal. Collaboration at its core, requires leadership. Collaboration improves team dynamics, enhances problem solving leading to increased innovation, process efficiency, improved communication, and ultimately overall success.

All DEOMI poster files are in the public domain. All DEOMI special observance poster images are high-resolution and may be used to print posters up to 30 x 40 inches. DEOMI does not print posters or mail them out to our customers. Users, however, must credit the DEOMI when using them.¹

In addition, please check out our website for a wide variety of new products we have prepared to help our Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity and Command Climate Professionals in the Field, Fleet, Wing and Agency. DEOMI develops and delivers innovative education, training, research, and collaborative solutions to optimize total force readiness.

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